

## Local Agency Conference Call Agenda

March 5, 2015  
Beginning at 9:00am

Conference Call-in Number: (866) 910-4857 Password: 768324

WEBEX: <https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=m535375288678a33bfb388bd77d634531>

State Update/Announcements- Kate

- Spring Conference reminder/update- we are sending out reminders every other week in the newsletter, please be sure to send in registration and book your hotel soon. There is a Quality Inn hotel across the street if the Wingate fills up.
- Staffing at State Office- we still have a vacancy for the Nutritionist position, currently re-posted after an unsuccessful round of interviews. Our IT Lead position is also open and will be posted soon. We will post these positions in the newsletter and encourage you to share them.
- Phone list updates (phone numbers, hours, locations)- Mark Squires has been working on updating our phone and clinic list, PLEASE respond to his requests and ensure that we have correct information on locations, phone numbers, hours of operations, etc. We will keep the list on our website updated for participants to more easily locate you.
- Order forms (forms, MICR cartridges, and breast pumps) are being added to our website- please download and make orders as needed with Mark Squires. Also note that the forms order is now shorter as many OLD nutrition handouts have been taken off. Many of these were 15-20 years old and although some people still like using them, there is better information available that is more current. Ask Chris or Kate if you are having trouble locating nutrition information covering specific information.

Section Updates

- Vendor (Leah, Kevin, Glade)
  - EBT
  - Food package changes- New list will begin July 1<sup>st</sup>, they will be sent out to everyone as soon as they are ready. Reminder that the “big” changes include added yogurt and whole wheat pasta as options.
  - Monitoring- reminder to plan your monitoring for the year and contact Kevin with questions and to obtain needed materials.
  - We are wrapping up local agency monitoring and compliance buys for the season, so far only one failed compliance buy.
- Admin (Bernadette)
  - Outreach/participation session at conf.- **need 2 volunteers** to discuss local plan at the Spring conference during our outreach discussion. If we do not have any volunteers we may ask locals who we know have model plans to share.

- Nutrition (Chris and Kate)
  - Wichealth.org use- Use of wichealth.org is about 120 lessons per quarter average over the last several years. This only includes about 4 agencies who use it consistently. The agencies who do use it tend to be larger where the clinic is open full time and access is not an issue. The intent of paying for this service is to save time and reduce barriers for the more rural/remote clinics. Please consider using this service more if you want it to continue being an option. The state has paid for a multi-year contract for the whole state and we will be analyzing its cost-benefit next year to determine whether to continue using it. Remember that while it is for low risk participants, often a high risk participant may use it after their issues have been assessed/addressed by the RD or other professional. Please contact the state office if you are unsure about how to use it or need more information. <https://support.wichealth.org/> Here is a link to the support website with outreach materials and reports. To obtain a log in for your agency, please contact their helpdesk at [help@wichealth.org](mailto:help@wichealth.org).
  - “New” employee training- having 2 sessions at the state office in Helena this June. This training is for “new” employees at any of our local clinics who could benefit from an overview of WIC and key policies in both certification and nutrition services. There will be material covered for all positions in clinic and some time to practice on M-SPIRIT. Please contact Chris ([cfogelman@mt.gov](mailto:cfogelman@mt.gov)) for more information. We will continue to post reminders in the newsletter as well.
  - Breastfeeding training (Loving Support, CLC, Breastfeeding Collaborative)- there are several breastfeeding trainings coming up this Spring and summer. Loving Support training is happening in Butte this month (which is full), this covers training for new Peer Counselors and is great basic breastfeeding training for new WIC staff. There will be 2 CLC trainings in Montana this year, the first is in Butte August 3-7 (breastfeeding week) and the second is September 28-October 2 in Helena, MT. The website for more information is <http://www.healthychildren.cc/calendar.htm>. Additionally, we will be sponsoring the Breastfeeding Collaborative in June with the NAPA program. All staff are welcome to come at no registration fee but we will only be covering travel expenses for peer counselors and their supervisor’s. We will also be contracting with Jackie and Theresa in Ravalli to provide Loving Support training a couple of times per year for new staff.
- IT (Dick and Blair)
  - Equipment and network ownership- we are reviewing these policies and will provide some information for the next contract period for those interested in taking over ownership.
  - If you are on the state network you may have noticed the “Bit Locker” change in security.
  - SPIRIT Utilities has the report available which shows participants who continue to be eligible for benefits but do not currently have benefits. This is a great report to run for outreach efforts and maintaining retention. Many agencies are using it and finding it very helpful. The report includes authorized rep information to make contact easier.

Home Visiting- Dianna Frick (406-444-6940 or [dfrick@mt.gov](mailto:dfrick@mt.gov))

- Reviewed home visiting programs across the state, new programs and locations. Many, if not all, participants in WIC are eligible for home visiting services.
- It is the goal to have Home Visiting staff and WIC work closely and make referrals to one another. This is a great partnership and we would be happy to help facilitate this connection if it has been challenging.
- The programs provide services for women and families who are expecting a new child or have young children (up through 5) in the household. The services are free and voluntary and include health, hearing, vision, and developmental screenings, connecting families to resources to help improve their self-sufficiency, and providing education and support to parents on healthy pregnancies, overall health, child health and development, school readiness, development-centered parenting, positive parent-child interaction, and family well-being.
- The site for more information, including locations, program contact information, a description of services, and a referral form is <http://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/homevisiting>

Food Package III- Dietitians on the call please- See Powerpoint for details

- RX Review, approval process
- Food Package 3 review
- Medicaid coverage- See attachments and powerpoint. <http://medicaidprovider.mt.gov/04>  
Contact: Lisa Warrington [lwarrington@mt.gov](mailto:lwarrington@mt.gov) or 406-444-0950
  - Note that Medicaid should cover tube feeding and may cover other special formulas if the participant meets all the criteria.
- Children with Special Healthcare Needs: <http://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cshs>  
Contact: Heather Racicot at [hracicot@mt.gov](mailto:hracicot@mt.gov) or 406-444-3620